



# Greenville Recreation & Parks Department

## Monthly Report

February 2010

### Gary Fenton, Director

- City Council approved contingency funding for replacement of the “double half pipe with spine” at Extreme Park. Dave Mirra and numerous other BMX pros and Extreme Park users attended Council to show their support for this legislation.
- Extreme Park repairs will allow the department to again invite the Gatorade Free Flow Tour to host a competition in Greenville, this summer.
- Exceptional Community Baseball League (ECBL -- formerly “Challenger”) has now expanded into 3 age groups: Youth (5-14), Senior Youth (15-24) and Adult (25+). Play takes place at Elm Street Park.
- Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation is providing \$10,000 in funding, + equipment, in support of the ECBL. Other donations are being received as well.
- The Foundation is also providing funding for the “Badges for Baseball” and “Healthy Choices” programs in Greenville, which we will coordinate with the GPD’s PAL program.
- The Director will address attendees at the District I Town Hall Meeting, 3/8 at City Hall.
- This year’s Eastern Regional High School Basketball Tournament could be the last one Greenville hosts for a while, if a major sponsor cannot be identified soon. We are grateful to University Health Systems of Eastern NC for their many years of generous support to this great event.
- Extreme Park electrical issues being coordinated with Eastern Elementary School’s construction contractor. Power cannot be reestablished until backfilling of the new retaining wall is completed.
  - Members of GRPD’s “Accreditation Team” continue their efforts towards departmental accreditation, a process that will take several years but that will put the department on the path to “state-of-the-art” operations. Some team members will visit Durham P&R, which received agency accreditation in 2008.
  - Six other NC P&R agencies are currently accredited. Staff hopes to make the GRPD the 7<sup>th</sup>.



## Parks Division

### Mark Gillespie, Parks Superintendent

- Developed and refined golf course operating procedures and policies.
- Continued to meet with North of the River advocates to discuss their proposals.
- Bridge repairs needed at Hole #3 at Bradford Creek Golf Course. Project soon to be underway.

## Steve Warner, Facilities Manager

- Removed playground equipment and site prep completed for playground replacement at West Meadowbrook Park.
- Reviewing and revising maintenance contracts for mowing of greenways.
- Crews replaced 16 trees in various parks.
- Landscape Crews – Ball field improvement schedule nearing completion; delayed due to weather conditions. Debris removal underway at all park facilities.
- Technician Crews – Completion of numerous work orders and routine facility work with the preventative maintenance and regular maintenance crews.

## Howard Vainright, Parks Coordinator, River Park North (RPN)

- February Activities:
  - 3 group visits to the Nature Center, total attendance, 150
- February Programs:
  - Hunter Safety Course, attendance, 7
  - Snake Program, Juvenile Detention Center, attendance, 12
  - Boating Safety Course, attendance, 29
  - Salt Water Fishing School, attendance, 38
  - Wetland Observation Program, attendance, 12
  - Soccer Coaches Clinic, attendance, 50
  - ECU Science & Technology Fair, RPN/Snake Booth, total attendance, 300+
- Coming in March:
  - Bird Club Meeting, 3/1
  - Bird Club/Pitt County Eagle Watching Trip, 3/6
  - Field Trip to Sylvan Heights Waterfowl Park, 3/13
  - Oakwood School Science Fair, RPN/Snake Booth, 3/18
  - Boating Safety Course, 3/20
  - Jake's Day, Pitt Co. Wildlife Club, RPN/Snake Booth, 3/20
  - City Staff Snake Identification Training, 3/24
  - *NC Wildlife Resources Commission* Project WILD Workshop, 3/27
  - RPN Snake Booth at Kidsfest, Convention Center, 3/27
  - Pitt Community College, Adaptive Fishing Gear Training, 3/31



## Lamarco Morrison, Parks Planner

- The design consultant for the Town Common Master Plan, ColeJenest & Stone, presented park design concepts at the Redevelopment Commission meeting, 2/2.
- Parks staff completed specifications for a new playground at West Meadowbrook Park; a site meeting was held with playground vendors from GameTime, Inc. and Playworld, Inc. on 2/8. Proposals received 2/26.
- A pre-bid conference was held at the Eppes Gym on 2/18 for the Eppes Electrical Renovations and Gymnasium HVAC Installation; bids will be accepted on 3/3. Park staff have completed contract agreements for asbestos abatement and window replacement in the gym.

- Park staff completed the specifications and project scope for the Half Pipe Ramp Replacement at Extreme Park. Construction will commence in early March.
- The Parks Division met with students from the Landscape Architecture Department at NC A&T State University to tour the Phil Carroll property off Hwy 43. The students are currently working on the Site Analysis Phase of this master planning project.

### **E. Dean Foy, Parks Coordinator**

- Work Orders completed 61, Work Orders pending 98.
  1. Labor Hours - 1330
  2. Labor Costs - \$20,769
- Park Services supported 3 events in February – Special Olympics Basketball Tournament at the Aquatics and Fitness Center, a 5K at Town Common, and the 2010 Community Celebration of Black History at Koinonia Church.
  1. Labor Hours - 33
  2. Labor Costs - \$554
- “Bigger expense” items
  1. Athletic Field Prep - 368 hrs. - \$6,362 labor
  2. Landscaping - 393 hrs. - \$4,940 labor

### **Mike Cato, Recreation Manager, Bradford Creek Golf Course**

- Due to continually bad weather, Bradford Creek had its worst revenue month in its 10 year history. Revenue for February was \$18,500 as compared to \$44,500 a year ago.
- The course was closed or saw no revenue for 14 days in February.
- Pro Mike Cato attended the Annual Carolinas PGA Big Week.
- Coming in March:
  - *A Practice with Pro's Clinic* for Jr Golfers, 3/7 and 3/21, 4-5pm.
  - Annual Eastern NC Junior Golf Association Board Meeting, 3/8.
  - Trinity Christian School Conference Golf Match, 3/11.
  - PGA *GET GOLF READY* beginner's clinic, 3/14-18, 5:30-7:30pm.
  - Aerification on 3/15 & 16. Nine holes will be closed each day.
  - *GET GOLF READY* Demo Day, 3/19, 2:30-7:00pm, in partnership with Pro Golf Discount.
  - Pro Mike Cato competing in the Carolinas PGA Head Professionals Golf Championship at the DeBordieu Club in Georgetown, SC, 3/22-23.
  - The “Nine & Wine” Ladies Golf League begins 3/25.
  - ECU Intramural Golf Tournament, 3/29-30.



# Recreation Division

## Shana Kriewall, Recreation Superintendent

- Hosted STAR's (Support Team for Active Recreation) annual Arts and Cultural Day at Jaycee Park on 2/27. Approximately 65 attended.



## Todd Riddick, Recreation Manager, Centers and Programs

- PT Recreation Leader Scott Lineberger was promoted to Recreation Asst. for Specialized Recreation, a full time position.
- PT Recreation Leader position is open and will be filled soon.



## Alonza Price, Recreation Supervisor, Eppes Recreation Center

- Young Teens females program sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta has started.

## Troy Smith, Recreation Supervisor, South Greenville Gym

- South Greenville Girl Scout Troop 2214 held a cookie sale at K-Mart on 2/6.
- Youth Basketball League (ages 5-16) concluded 2/12.
- PAL held a Haiti Relief Dance for the youth on 2/12.
- Career Fair for elementary school kids held on 2/26.
- Learn & Play Group for preschoolers met 4 times in February.

## Dee Crandol, Recreation Supervisor, Special Populations

- Special Olympics Aquatics began 2/2. 23 swimmers currently training.
- 56 athletes received free Special Olympics physicals, 2/3 Elm St. Gym.
- 205 attended Valentine's Day Dance, 2/10.
- Special Olympics Track & Field began 2/27. Spring Games will be at J.H. Rose on 4/14.



## Christen Winstead, Recreation Supervisor, Senior Adult Programs



- Southside Senior Citizens Club regular meeting, 2/1, 72 attended, 3 new members joined.
- Moyewood Senior Citizens Club regular meeting, 2/17, 38 attended, 2 new members joined.
- 43 attended Pizza/Bingo Party, 2/15.
- On 2/3 & 4, 150+ seniors participated in Sportsfest, a practice session for the upcoming Senior Games in April. Events included archery, table tennis, cornhole, football toss, basketball shooting, bocce, and pickleball.



- Greenville was host to the District 1A Sweetheart Banquet at Cornerstone Church on 2/12. 72 Southside members and 34 Moyewood members attended. Over 300 people attended the banquet including Mayor Pat Dunn, Director Gary Fenton, and County Commissioner Melvin McLawhorn.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Community Celebration of Black History was held at Koinonia Christian Center Church on 2/20. Local authors and artists were able to display their work. Live entertainment was provided by groups such as *Jonkonnu* and *Little Willie Center Praise Dancers*. Arts & Craft activities were available for children, health screenings and several vendors were also a part of the event. About 350 attended.



### **Julianne Blackburn, Recreation Supervisor, Arts & Crafts**

- *Sewing for Adults* is full, and a new class was added on Monday nights.
- New class, *Beginner Ballroom* was successful with 13 enrolled.
- *Valentine's Clay* was a huge success.

### **Dennis Vestal, Recreation Manager, Athletics**

- Represented GRPD at Tournament of State Champions meeting on 2/7, Greenville Little League board meeting on 2/8, Greenville Babe Ruth board meeting on 2/17, and Jackie Robinson board meeting on 2/22.

### **Don Octigan, Recreation Supervisor, Youth Athletics**

- 5-6 & 7-8 Youth Basketball season continues. Tournaments for age groups 9 and up began 2/22.
- Registration for spring Future Stars Soccer ended 2/15. 912 participants (856 in spring '09) and 114 teams.
- Registration for Greenie League Baseball (ages 4-8) began 2/1.

### **Lewis Holloman, Recreation Supervisor, Adult Athletics**

- Adult basketball will conclude regular season on 3/1; post-season tournament begins 3/3.
- Finalizing details for new full day (7:30am – 5:30pm) summer camp for ages 5-10 at Boyd Lee Park.

### **Chris Hinson, Recreation Supervisor, Tennis**

- Winter After School and QuickStart programs concluded 2/11.
- Registration opened for Spring Tennis programs, programs begin 3/15.
- Attended NC tournament directors' workshop in Pinehurst, 1/29.
- Hosted DCTA Australian Open Adult tennis tournament at River Birch Tennis Center 2/19-21.



## Randy Warren, Recreation Supervisor, Elm Street Gym/Elm Street Center

- Jackie Robinson Baseball League registration began 2/8. Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation will provide equipment support.

## Ronnie Harris, Recreation Supervisor, The Sports Connection

- Hosted 2 birthday parties in February.
- Conducted 18 private pitching lessons and 16 private batting lessons.
- 3,732 batting cage rounds used.
- Total Sports Connection attendance in February was 2,103.
- 7 teams in Winter Parent/Child Batting League.
- Session 2 filled for Group Batting Lessons which began on 2/9.
- Accepting registration for Ronald Vincent Batting Clinic, 3/7 and 3/14, 1:30 to 3:30.
- Kiley Gregory, Recreation Assistant, has accepted a new job in Denver, Colorado.



## Kathleen Shank, Recreation Manager, Aquatics & Fitness Center

- **GAFC:**
  - New Kids Aqua Aerobics is being offered to encourage fitness for children. A first time program.
  - 19 registered for a fitness study hosted by ECU interns.
  - Carolina Shag classes have begun.
  - 3 instructors obtained Zumba (Latin dance aerobics) certifications – new classes start in March.
  - February membership special brought in 118 new members (highest since 1999).
  - Combined efforts with BC Golf Course on a video encouraging golfers to participate in “golf appropriate” exercises during the slow season.

## And in March...

- Greenville hosts 20<sup>th</sup> NCHSAA Eastern Regional B-Ball Tournament 3/2-6, at Minges and Rose HS.
- Future Stars Soccer begins 3/6.
- Greenville Little Leagues will begin accepting registration on 3/8.
- Staff trip to Durham Recreation and Parks; briefing on national accreditation process.
- Statewide Athletics Committee (SWAC) 12 & Under youth basketball tournament will be held at Boyd Lee Park 3/12-14.
- Recreation Superintendent Shana Kriewall will attend the National Recreation and Park Association's Revenue School 3/14-19.
- **Free** Roller Hockey and Street Hockey Clinic (in partnership with Bladez on Ice and the ECU Roller Hockey Team) will be held at Extreme Park, 3/20.
- Registration for Babe Ruth Prep League and Jr. Babe Ruth, 3/21-22
- The Annual KidsFest - 3/27 at the Convention Center, 10am-2pm. GRPD will host info table, face painting, and many outdoor activities.



*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Gary Fenton, Director*